Kerosene to Rajasthan

753. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the present quantity of kerosene allocation to Rajasthan;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have been curtailing kerosene allocation to the State;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government would consider increasing the allotment of kerosene to the State in near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Kerosene allocation to the State of Rajasthan for the current fiscal year is 4,06,152 Metric Tonne (MT).

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. In line with the uniform policy being adopted for all the States/Union Territories, Kerosene allocation to Rajasthan for the year 2003-2004 has been reduced taking into account the number of LPG connections released in the State during December, 2001 to November, 2002.

(d) In view of (b) and (c) above, No, Sir.

Evaluation committee on fuel from plastic

754. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have evaluated the claim of a Nagpur based scientist couple for production of petrol from plastic wastes;

(b) if so, the findings of the Evaluation Committee; and

(c) whether any prototype production unit for petrol from plastic wastes is under installation and if so, the location and capacity thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The findings of the evaluation reports on the process are that

before the fuel so obtained is used for auto and other purposes, its chlorine content, diene level etc. are required to be improved.

(c) No, Sir.

Steps to improve security at Chitradurga Fort

755. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have so far been taken to improve security and other facilities at Chitradurga Fort in Karnataka; and

(b) the amount so far released during 2003-04 for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) To improve the security and other facilities at Chitradurga Fort in Karnataka, following steps have been initiated by the Archaeological Survey of India:

(i) round the clock security by deploying private security personnel;

(ii) provision of drinking water, toilet facilities for the visitors;

(iii) building of a protection wall round the monument to prevent encroachment;

(iv) rehabilitation of 118 houses as a part of encroachment removal drive.

The estimates for the above purpose have been recently received.

Opening up of more Islands in Andaman and Nicobar

756. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:
SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tourism department of Andaman and Nicobar Islands has submitted a proposal to the Central Government requesting for opening up of more islands in the Andaman and Nicobar;

(b) whether it is a fact that the tourism department has identified 45 hectares of land in these islands for tourist promotion; and